

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
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March 23, 2000 LB 171, 495, 628, 812, 936, 953, 1092, 1092A
 1399
 LR 350

Mr. Clerk, next item. Items for the record first.

CLERK: Thank you, Mr. President. Your Committee on Enrollment and Review reports LB 171, LB 628, LB 953, LB 1092, and LB 1092A as correctly engrossed. In addition to those items, Mr. President, study resolution (Read LR 350 by title for the first time.) Senator Baker, amendment to LB 936; Senator Stuhr to LB 495; Senator Schimek to LB 1399. That's all that I have, Mr. President. (Legislative Journal pages 1256-1263.)

SENATOR CUDABACK: Mr. Clerk, next item.

CLERK: Mr. President, the next bill is LB 812. It's a bill by Senator Bohlke. (Read LB 812 by title.) The bill was introduced on January 20 of last year, at that time referred to the Education Committee. The bill was advanced to General File. I do have committee amendments by the Education Committee, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Bohlke, you are recognized to open on LB 812.

SENATOR BOHLKE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and members. Oftentimes people have asked me why I chose not to run for the Legislature again, and I've said because of assessment. It has tested my patience (laugh). But I hope that by the end of LB 812 we will be able to bring a final conclusion to the issue of what we should be doing in our schools as far as assessment, what we should be doing statewide. And so we have amendments following that really replace LB 812, but before we get there, let me give a little overview of the history so that I may refresh your memories. And to some of you, actually this may be a new subject. I can't quite imagine that, but most of you have heard about this issue in the past. I believe I first introduced the bill for one test in 1996. Since then, we've had a long history of meetings, conferences, debates, discussions, an interim study. We had it on the floor last year and decided to delay because I thought that there were a number of issues that schools were not aware of and teachers were not aware of, so we've had continued discussions up to this point at this time. I would certainly like to thank Senator Stuhr for prioritizing this bill so that we could actually get to it this session.